

REMARKS

Applicants have cancelled claims 27 and 28 only to expedite the prosecution of this application and not because applicants have agreed with the Examiner.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-12, 25, 26 and 29.

Claims 27 and 28 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,124,736 (Yamashita). This rejection is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 27 and 28.

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to

Deposit Account No. 03-1952, referencing Docket No. 492322002400.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 27, 2004

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